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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Lewis F. Payne
House of Representatives
1118 Longworth House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515-4605

Dear Congressman Payne:

This is in response to your letter of June 7, 1993, addressing personal communications service (PCS). Your constituent, E. B. Fitzgerald, President and General Manager of the Peoples Mutual Telephone Company, Inc., requests that local exchange carriers (LECs) be permitted to participate in providing PCS to its customers, particularly in rural areas.

On July 16, 1992, in adopting a series of proposals that would establish a regulatory framework to govern provision of PCS, the Commission tentatively concluded that there is a strong case for allowing LECs to provide PCS within their respective service areas, but requested public comment on this issue and on whether LECs holding cellular licenses should be treated differently (GEN Docket No. 90-314 and ET Docket No. 92-100). The Commission also sought comment on alternatives, such as restricting LECs from obtaining a full PCS license in their service area but permitting them to apply for a license or to lease or purchase rights to use an amount of spectrum smaller than that authorized other PCS providers. A copy of the Commission's proposals, which address the status of LECs at paragraphs 71-80, is enclosed.

I anticipate that the Commission will address these PCS issues later this year. Please be assured that your constituent's concerns will be taken into account before a final decision is made and, for that purpose, I am placing a copy of his letter into the record of this proceeding.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Stanley

Thomas P. Stanley
Chief Engineer

Enclosure

No. of Copies rec'd
List ABCDE

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PEOPLES MUTUAL TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC.

P. O. BOX 367

GRETNA, VIRGINIA 24557

(804) 656-2291

E.B. FITZGERALD

PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER



May 7, 1993

The Honorable L. F. Payne, Jr.
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20215

Dear L. F.;

Personal Communications Services (PCS) promises to change the way we communicate. It has the potential to provide flexibility, mobility and advanced data capabilities to everyone, every place in this country. According to industry experts, it also has the potential to be a substitute for 20 - 40% of wireline service.

Please don't allow our small telephone company to be dealt this crippling blow without giving us a chance to participate in this new service.

It is important to us to be able to bring these services to our customers in rural America. The on-going viability of local exchange carriers is vitally important to our communities and our nation. We need full latitude to be a provider of services enabled by emerging technology.

Yours very truly,

E. B. Fitzgerald

EBF:ks